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CHESTERFIELD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR 1937

BY

JOHN REID GRAHAM, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

CHESTERFIELD :
WILFRED EDMUNDS, LTD.,
PRINTERS.

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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

31st December, 1937.

BARRS, Alfred Josiah, Heath.
BASSETT, John, Ashover.
BATTY, Annie Jane, (Mrs.), J.P., Killamarsh.
BIRDS, J., Brook Lynn, Holymoorside.
BECKETT, Alfred, Ridgeway Ward, Eckington.
BRADLEY, Frederick, (Senior), Stretton.
BRIERLEY, James, Shirland and Higham Ward.
CLEMENTS, John William, J.P., North Wingfield.
FENSOME, Sidney Thomas, Pilsley.
GOODLAD, John, Barlow.
HARDY, William George, Wingerworth.
HEELEY, William, Beighton.
HERRIOTT, Cornelius, Frecheville.
KAY, Horace, Eckington Ward, Eckington.
KAY, Robert, Holmesfield.
HOLMES, John Thomas, C.C., Brimington.
LAMB, Thomas, Alton, Calow.
LATHAM, William Leeke (Rev'd.), Morton.
HAYDEN, Howard, Renishaw Ward, Eckington.
MacDONALD, James Samuel, Hasland.
PEAT, Edwin, J.P., C.A., Mosborough Ward, Eckington.
PHIPPS, Henry, J.P., C.C., Brimington.
HADLEY, George, Stonebroom Ward, Shirland and Higham.
RIGGOTT, G. A., Linacre House, Cutthorpe, Brampton Ward.
RILEY, William, (Senior), Wessington.
SALES, Samuel, Tupton.
SEARSTON, Herbert, North Wingfield.
SHARMAN, Walter, Unstone.
STATON, James, J.P., Beighton.
STIRLING, William, Temple Normanton.
SWINDELL, Joseph, J.P., Killamarsh.
TURBUTT, Richard Babington, Brackenfield.
WOODBINE, Wilfred Walter, Sutton-cum-Duckmanton.
WOOD, Hiram, Frecheville.
WHITMORE, Thomas, Hasland.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :

JOHN R. GRAHAM, M.B., Ch.B., (St. And.),
D.P.H. (St. And.).

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTORS :

T. W. BINNS, Cert. S.I., Cert. Meat Inspector.
F. WATERFALL, Cert. S.I., Cert. Meat Inspector.

SANITARY INSPECTORS :

T. F. AYRTON, Cert. S.I., Cert. Meat Inspector.
W. E. BOLTON, Cert. S.I., Cert. Meat Inspector.
J. WILSON, Cert. S.I., Cert. Meat Inspector.
F. ATKIN, Cert. S.I., Cert. Meat Inspector. (Resigned 31st May,
1937).
E. A. GREGORY, Cert. S.I., (Appointed 28th June, 1937).

CLERKS :

Miss M. MELTON.
G. F. WILKS.
D. FREEMAN.

MR. CHAIRMAN, MRS. BATTY AND GENTLEMEN,

I herewith present my Annual Report for the year 1937. This year the energies of this department have been mainly directed towards " Clearance " of unfit houses.

Comparisons as to vital statistics will be clear this year as 1936 was the first complete year of working of the new Rural District Council, as constituted by the Local Government Act, 1929.

I have been informed that certain Parish Councils have not agreed with my estimated figures of population. I am quite prepared to agree that such figures may be wrong, but the following explanation will perhaps clear up matters.

Each year the registrar general sends to each Authority an estimated population figure for the *whole area*, but *not* for *each individual parish*. To get the estimated population for the parishes, one must get the average number of persons per house for the whole area, and then work out from the number of inhabited houses in each parish the aggregate population. With the great increase of houses in the area it will be realised that in certain parishes where there is a preponderance of new property with a small number of persons per house may have a higher estimated population than actual population. While some older parishes where new building has not predominated may have a lower estimated population than actual.

It is interesting to note that in 1931, the average number of persons per house was 4.21. In 1936, it had dropped to 3.68, and this year the estimated average number of persons per house is 3.65.

In conclusion, I should like to thank the members of the Council, staff and colleagues who have rendered assistance from time to time during the year.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN R. GRAHAM,

Medical Officer of Health.

Health Offices,
Rural Council House,
Chesterfield.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

The area of the District is 69,139 acres.

Population, 69,360.

The Rateable Value of the District is £247,058/0/0d.

The sum represented by a penny rate is £925/0/0d.

Live Births—

	Total.	Male.	Female.
Legitimate	984	483	501
Illegitimate	28	15	13
	<hr/> 1012	<hr/> 498	<hr/> 514

Birth Rate.—

14.59 per 1,000 of the estimated resident population.

Still Birth Rate.—

	Total.	Male.	Female.
Legitimate	66	32	34
Illegitimate	3	2	1
	<hr/> 69	<hr/> 34	<hr/> 35

Still Birth Rate.—

63.83 per 1,000 total (live and still) births.

Deaths.—

	Total.	Male.	Female.
Total	755	395	360

Death Rate.—

10.89 per 1,000 estimated resident population.

Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.
No. 29. Puerperal Sepsis .. .	2	1.85
No. 30. Other Puerperal Causes.	3	2.77
	<hr/> 5	<hr/> 4.62

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All Infants per 1,000 Live Births	60.28
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	58.94
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	143.00
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	6
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	3
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	2

Deaths from Violence.

During the year 6 more deaths were recorded from violence than the previous year.

The road accidents are trebled and pit accidents and industrial accidents nearly doubled.

While the domestic accidents remain at much the same figure.

It may be assumed that the increase in numbers employed has something to do with the increase in the number of industrial accidents and pit accidents, also it will have an effect on the road accidents. With regard to the road accidents, 6 deaths were due to causes not connected with mechanically propelled vehicles.

The following are the figures :—

Road Accidents	18
Pit Accidents	9
Industrial (other than pit)	6
Domestic	9
Other Violence	3

Infant Deaths.—

The deaths are as follows :—

Premature Birth	16
Congenital Malformations	4
Congenital Debility	15
Other Causes (mainly pneumonia)	26

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

(1) **Nursing in the Home.**

No nursing in the home is undertaken by the Rural District Council.

(2) **Midwives.**

Are under the supervision of the Derbyshire County Council.

(3) **Laboratory Facilities.**

All bacteriological examinations and chemical analysis are performed by the Offices of the Derbyshire County Council.

(4) **Hospital.**

No new arrangements were made in 1937.

(5) **New Legislation.**

Housing Act, 1936, came into force during the year.

Ambulance Facilities.

(a) Infectious Diseases :—Dronfield, Langwith, Mastin Moor, Morton, Penmore and Spital Hospitals have Motor Ambulances.

(b) Non-Infectious Diseases :—Motor Ambulances are maintained by the Hardwick Colliery Co., Heath; Messrs. J. & G. Wells, Ltd., Colliery Proprietors, Eckington; The Grassmoor Colliery Co., Ltd., Colliery Proprietors, Hasland; The Staveley Coal & Iron Co., Ltd.; The Pilsley Colliery Co., and the Red Cross Society has one stationed at Morton Colliery.

There are in close proximity to the District, Motor Ambulances belonging to the Chesterfield Borough Police, The Sheepbridge Coal & Iron Co., the North Midland Coal Owners Rescue Station, Chesterfield, the Glapwell Colliery, The Bolsover Colliery Co., Ltd., The Tibshelf Colliery Co., Ltd., the Clay Cross Com., Ltd., and the Creswell Colliery Co., Ltd. There is a Red Cross Ambulance at Dronfield.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

County Clinic, Brimington Road, Chesterfield.—Tuberculosis School Clinics for minor ailments, and a Dental Clinic are carried on in this building. Infant Welfare and Pre-natal Clinics are held at Barrow Hill, Beighton, Brimington, Eckington, Grassmoor, Hasland, Holmewood, Killamarsh, North Wingfield, Stonebroom and Unstone.

The County Council provides treatment for venereal diseases at the Royal Hospital, Chesterfield.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

The following particulars have been supplied by Mr. Gilbert Frith, Waterworks Engineer, regarding the Waterworks Undertakings :—

“ The scheme of works necessary to afford a piped supply of water to the villages of Brackenfield and Ashover Hay has been completed. The water is pumped from the Ashover mains at Milltown to a small service tank at Ashover Hay, and distributed therefrom to Brackenfield village. The supply is available to approximately 65 houses.

A comprehensive scheme of relaying of trunk mains in the Tupton and Pilsley District has been prepared, but is held up pending final decision regarding the South Central Housing Site.

A larger service tank has been built at Pilsley, and during the past year the conditions of supply to the higher parts of the village have been very much improved.

A length of 9in. main has been laid in Eckington to afford an improved supply of water to houses in the vicinity of Eckington reservoir.

A length of main has been laid to afford a piped supply of water to Crowhole Village. With the exception of Wilday Green, all the hamlets in the vicinity of Barlow Village have now a piped supply.

A 12in. main has been laid from Barrow Hill to Troughbrook Lodge in the Urban District of Staveley, which has a direct effect on the adequacy of the supply at Arkwright Town. Since the work has been completed the supply at Arkwright is much improved.”

The following are the results of various samples :—

Ashover :—2 samples.

Chemical Analysis :—1 Unsatisfactory.

Bacteriological Exam. :—1 Satisfactory.

Sutton-cum-Duckmanton :—3 samples.

Chemical Analysis :—1 Satisfactory.

1 Unsatisfactory.

Bacteriological Exam. :—1 Unsatisfactory.

Eckington :—3 samples.

Chemical Analysis :—1 Satisfactory.

Bacteriological Exam. :—2 Unsatisfactory.

Handley :—1 sample.

Chemical Analysis :—1 Satisfactory.

Sutton Springs Wood :—11 samples.

Chemical Analysis :—1 Unsatisfactory.

1 Satisfactory (improve as it clears).

Bacteriological Exam. :—9 Unsatisfactory.

Wessington :—3 samples.

Bacteriological Exam. :—3 Unsatisfactory.

Total.—

4 Satisfactory.

1 Satisfactory. (Improve as it clears).

18 Unsatisfactory.

—
23
—

SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The following are brief particulars of works of sewerage and sewage disposal carried out during the year, which have been supplied by Mr. Wikeley, Engineer.

Beighton.

There have been extensions to the sewers at School Lane and Woodhouse Lane, Beighton, and at Fox's Lane, Frecheville.

There has been evidence of surcharging of the sewers on the Frecheville estate during times of intense rainfall, and to relieve this, a relief sewer has been laid along the Birley Moor Road.

Brimington.

The sewage disposal arrangements at the south end of Brimington Common have, for some time, been unsatisfactory. Treatment was by means of land irrigation, but the subsoil was not suitable for the purpose and the results were ordinarily below the usual standard. This method of treatment has been abandoned by the establishment of a pumping station at Allpits Wood into which the drainage of the area discharges, and is lifted into the Brimington Common main sewer discharging to the Wheeldon Mill sewage disposal works. A new sewer is also incorporated in this scheme to deal with property recently erected and in course of erection. This work has effected very great public health improvement.

Eckington.

Minor improvements to the sewerage system in Eckington village have been made during the year and several miles of new sewers have been laid in the Parish in connection with the Council's housing schemes, and housing estate developments by private enterprise.

Holmesfield.

The sewage disposal works at Cowley Bar, draining the Cowley Bar district and Holmesfield, were brought into operation early in the year.

North Wingfield.

Both foul and surface water sewers have been laid in connection with the Council's new housing estate at Hillyfields.

Tupton.

Several extensions to the sewer have been carried out in Station Road and in Queen Victoria Road, in consequence of building development.

Walton.

Extensions have been made to the sewers in Holymoore Road, Holymoorside, and in Walton Back Lane.

Wessington.

The sewage disposal arrangements at Wessington were of a primitive nature, and serious complaints had been received with regard to the effluent. During the year a length of sewer has been laid from the old sewage works in the village, down the Higham Road, to a site near the River Amber where a new sewage disposal works has been constructed. The new works is one of modern design and will be capable of dealing with the normal development of the Parish for many years to come.

Wingerworth.

A sewer has been laid in Mill Lane and a small sewage disposal works constructed to deal with existing and anticipated development.

A length of sewer has been constructed in Nethermoor Lane, being an extension of the sewer discharging to the Tupton Sewage Disposal Works.

From the above report you will notice that Holmesfield and Wessington have now been sewered. Only two parts of the district where there is any considerable aggregation of property remain unsewered, these are part of Temple Normanton and part of Wingerworth.

In each case the parts I refer to have very recently been developed for building, and the system of drainage is to cesspools. I have mentioned in previous reports the nuisance caused by cesspools when houses are built in a fair density. This nuisance has been a source of complaint from both the areas I have mentioned.

It does seem wrong that this Council is practically forced to pass plans for dwellings in areas such as I have mentioned knowing full well that in the future a nuisance will be created, and sooner or later sewerage facilities will have to be granted.

In my last year's report, I drew attention to the fact that certain parts of the Rural District were becoming "dormitories" for Sheffield and Chesterfield. Great activity in the erection of new buildings is still going on in the parts of the district adjacent to these towns.

During 1937, I estimate that of the 541 new houses built, over 300 have been erected to accommodate former residents of Chesterfield and Sheffield.

HOUSING.

In the table on pages 15 and 16 is shown the number of houses demolished during the year 1937.

As far as this department is concerned, houses have been dealt with so far as Inspection and Inquiries are concerned in Clearance Areas. Further houses have been subject to Action under Section 19 of the 1930 Act, or Section 11 of the 1936 Act.

These Mrs. Batty and Gentlemen are bare figures, but I am sure that anyone of you has studied the Housing Acts and attended any inquiries will realize the immense amount of work involved.

Another point which I should like to draw your attention to is that all work in Housing has had to commence from the foundation. No data of any houses were available for this department to base figures on and experience has taught us that it is impossible to say whether a house (in the majority of cases) should be demolished or repaired without first having made a fairly detailed inspection.

At this juncture, I would emphasize very strongly that although by the end of 1938, it is hoped that all the worst areas in the Rural District will have been dealt with, there still remains an enormous amount of work to be done with housing alone.

Another aspect of Housing which is becoming more and more obvious, is that owing to the large number of houses built by private enterprise, and also owing to the building operations of the local authorities, the general standard of housing has been appreciably improved during the past five years. At this point I would say, however, that I am not asserting that the workmanship or materials used in new houses are so very much superior, I refer to the amenities offered by modern buildings.

This being so, it means that houses which might have been considered as capable of being rendered fit for human habitation five years ago, will not now come under this category.

Many landlords bring forward schemes for reconstruction which will, according to existing standards, make the house fit for human habitation, but the Act is very emphatic that houses must be made fit in all respects.

Another point which the majority of landlords do not seem to appreciate is, that after spending a considerable sum of money on an old house, the house still lacks modern amenities. These amenities are not at the present time considered essential features, but it may well be that legislation in the near future will class such amenities as necessities.

Recently, there have appeared in the lay press, articles deprecating the demolition of old and picturesque cottages. No one more than I regret the passing of the picturesque stone cottage, which is a feature of some of our rural parishes; but one must realise that the mere "picturesqueness" of a dwelling will not compensate a housewife for the additional labour which an old fashioned cottage inevitably entails.

There also seems to be a prevalent idea that a country cottage should not have the amenities of a town dwelling. For the life of me I cannot reconcile myself to such a view point. We have been warned by a series of statesmen that the steady influx from the country to the towns is a bad thing for the nation.

Surely the least we can do to encourage people to remain in the country is to ensure that as far as possible their homes shall have all the conveniences that a home in a town can offer.

I rather get the impression that some of the views one sees aired in the press about rural housing, are given by "country week-enders" and people who go to the country for a holiday.

This type of people look upon all the inconveniences as part of the "fun of the fair" so to speak, but it is certain that if they had to live in such conditions all the year round and bring up a family, a very different attitude would be adopted towards the "picturesque country cottage."

One would be more in sympathy with ardent advocates of reconstruction of old properties, if they would agree that from a material point of view reconstruction is not a paying proposition, but reconstruction certainly helps to preserve the amenities of the country-side from an artist's point of view.

From the preceeding remarks, the conclusion may be drawn that in isolated country districts the same standards should be applied to houses situated in urban parts. I do not advocate this, for instance, the height of rooms need not be so rigorously adhered to, but I do advocate that all amenities should be provided, when at all possible.

In this area, we have many old stone cottages which are in a deplorable state, short of rebuilding from the foundations, little can be done; mere repairs will never make a satisfactory job. What is the solution? I am quite in agreement with one of our members who stated that he would "hate to see Ashover dotted with red brick " Bungaloids."

If the amenities of that Parish are to be preserved and the people properly housed, I see no other solution than facing extra expense and building new houses of stone.

One criticism I would venture on some of the new Council Houses, is washing accommodation. I do think to have a wash copper in a living room or living room cum scullery is undesirable.

One point, however, which the Council might consider with regard to some of the larger estates is the establishment of public wash houses. Not only would this avoid the disturbance in the house on a washing day, but the greatest boon would be that the housewives could bring back their washing in a practically dry state.

These wash-houses could well serve a twofold purpose. In connection with Air Raid Precautions schemes, it is very difficult to find buildings suitable for use as decontamination centres and first aid posts.

A public wash-house could be easily designed so that at little extra cost it could be used for either of these purposes. Decontamination centre, First Aid Post or Laundry for decontamination of clothing.

During the year, while engaged on Inquiries on Clearance areas, many very tragic cases came to light. It does seem that some compensation should be paid to owners instead of leaving property which has been an asset to become a heavy liability.

In many cases the property represents the sole income of the owner and quite a small income at that. The result is that there is no money to spare for repairs and maintenance, thus the property comes almost derelict.

OVERCROWDING.

Owing to the enormous amount of work being done in building for replacement of persons dwelling in unfit houses, no extensive work has yet been done to abate overcrowding.

There were 375 cases of overcrowding on the register at the end of the year.

During the year 25 cases of overcrowding have been abated involving 118 persons.

HOUSING.

1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year :—
 - (1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health Housing Acts) 503
 - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 3574
 - (2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925. 503
 - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 503
 - (3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 481
 - (4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 22
2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of Formal Notices :—

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 49
3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year.
 - (1) Proceedings under Sections 17, 18 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1930.
 - (a) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 6
 - (b) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—
 - (a) By Owners 12
 - (b) By Local Authority in default of owners 4

(2)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts.	
(a)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	7
(b)	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a)	By owners	—
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	—
(3)	Proceedings under Section 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1930.	
(a)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	6
(b)	Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	12
(4)	Proceedings under Section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930.	
(a)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	—
(b)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	—
(5)	Number of houses demolished in Clearance Area	69

TABLE 1.

Closet Accommodation.

	Number in use at end of 1937.
Privy Middens	4,840
Pail Closets	753
Water Closets	13,915
Trough and Slop Water Closets	54
Total	19,562

Conversions of Water Closets in 1937.

Privy Middens	484
Pail Closets	2
Total	486

TABLE 2.

Number of Inhabited Houses in the Area.

PARISH.	1934	1935	1936	1937
Ashover...	611	631	631	631
Barlow	233	254	238	241
Beighton	1,651	2,290	2,945	3,144
Brackenfield	70	70	70	70
Brampton	†	279	281	282
Brimington	1,458	1,506	1,556	1,613
Calow	326	340	346	350
Coal Aston	268	*	*	*
Dronfield Woodhouse	276	*	*	*
Eckington	2,900	3,140	3,248	3,329
Hasland	749	749	812	825
Heath	406	399	406	407
Holmesfield	180	253	261	273
Killamarsh	1,198	1,248	1,256	1,258
Morton	336	352	352	355
North Wingfield	1,486	1,538	1,557	1,585
Pilsley	696	701	711	715
Shirland & Higham	1,050	1,064	1,075	1,079
Staveley	3,913	*	*	*
Stretton	204	178	167	168
Sutton-cum-Duckmanton	693	394	410	429
Temple Normanton	155	165	154	161
Tupton	473	494	510	556
Unstone	530	560	557	557
Walton	†	421	440	470
Wessington	166	174	174	174
Wingerworth	230	270	289	315
Woodthorpe	82	*	*	*
	<hr/> 20,340	<hr/> 17,470	<hr/> 18,446	<hr/> 18,987

*Areas marked thus ceased to form part of the R.D.C. on April 1st, 1935.

†Areas marked thus were added to the R.D.C., April 1st, 1935.

Mr. Dore, the Housing and Estate Agent, has made the following report on the re-housing of families from Clearance Areas during the year :—

The number of dwellings occupied to-date is 1,100, with a further 435 in course of erection. Dwellings erected under the various Housing Acts are as follows :—

HOUSING ACTS.			NON-SUBSIDY.	TOTAL.
1919	1924	1930		
186	600	204	110	1,100

With the large number of dwellings now in course of erection together with the Council's immediate housing programme, the work of transferring families into new houses from Clearance areas will continue to proceed at a very increased rate month by month for some considerable time.

How are the families responding to the change brought about by their transfer from unfit dwellings into the new houses which the Council are providing for them?

As far as the programme to-date is concerned, I can say quite definitely that the results are most satisfactory, so much so that the measure of success attained so far may be accepted as almost 100%. I am able to give concrete examples of families who have been rehoused by this Council from unfit dwellings so sordid, wretched and insanitary in which they have lived all their lives, but now, after being provided with the very best type of working class housing accommodation by the Council rank amongst the Council's first class tenants.

Particulars of the dwellings now occupied and in course of erection as the result of rehousing work from Clearance Areas are as follows :—

DWELLINGS.

Estate.	Occupied.	Being erected.	Total.
Calow	13	—	13
Grassmoor	54	—	54
Mosborough	12	—	12
Eckington	61	130	191
North Wingfield	10	16	26
Tupton	47	—	47
Killamarsh	3	123	126
Brighton	4	10	14
Marsh Lane	—	59	59
Unstone	—	82	82
Apperknowle	—	15	15
Total	204	435	639

In implementing Mr. Dore's report on the improvement of the general conditions of families removed from slum clearance areas, the experience of a General Practitioner in the case of a family residing in a house now condemned is most illuminating.

The family consisted of Mother, Father, and eight children. When in possession of the old house, this Doctor informed me that scarcely a week passed without him receiving a call to visit some member of the family. The children were dirty and the house

filthy. This family were removed to a Council House, and during the past 18 months the Doctor has only been called in twice, the house is tidy and the children clean and healthy.

This is only one case, but there must be dozens more of a similar nature.

SCAVENGING.

On April 1st of this year, the scheme for carrying out scavenging by direct labour prepared by Mr. Binns, was adopted for most of the Southern Area. The following parishes are now scavenged by direct labour : Ashover, Brampton & Walton, Morton, Shirland and Higham, Wessington, Stretton, Brackenfield, Hasland, Wingerworth, North Wingfield, Tupton, Heath, Pilsley and Temple Normanton.

During the first nine months the scheme has been in operation it has been an unqualified success.

One thing I have noticed, however, in the past, neglect of the Contractor to empty bins promptly or empty privies, has been looked on by the ratepayers as something that had to be endured. Now that direct labour is in force, such things as a dustbin lid left off or some ashes dropped when removing a full bin are looked on by some ratepayers as being grounds for serious complaint.

Mr. Binns proposes to make a full report on the scheme at the termination of the financial year.

MEAT INSPECTION.

Mr. F. Waterfall has submitted the following report in connection with Meat and Foods Inspection, throughout the district, for the year ending 31st December, 1937.

“ There are thirty-nine slaughter houses in the District, to which 3,142 visits have been paid during the year.]

There are also two Knackers premises in the District. These are visited periodically.

Meat imported into the Area and sold from Vans and Stalls, is also inspected.

“ The carcasses inspected during the year 1937, were :—
Beasts, 3,948. Calves, 331. Sheep, 6,159. Pigs, 3,415.
TOTAL, 13,853.

A total of 44,983 lbs. (20 tons 1 cwt. 2 qrs. 15 lbs.) of diseased or unfit meat was surrendered from these carcasses, of which particulars are given in the Table attached, and in no instance was it found necessary to take legal proceedings.”

MEAT CONDEMNED.

ORGANS.		BEEF.	
Tuberculosis	..... 8,230 lbs.	Tuberculosis	18,929 lbs.
		Moribund	2,086 „
		Putrification	16 „
		Bruising	306 „
Distomatosis	..... 1,052 „	Total	21,337 lbs.
Echinococcus	..... 202 „		
		PORK.	
Necrosis	..... 44 „	Contusion, due to	
		Fracture	40 lbs.
Moribund	..... 516 „	Tuberculosis	400 „
		Dropsical	448 „
		Moribund	222 „
Angioma	..... 424 „	Total	1,110 lbs.
Nephritis	..... 6 „	MUTTON.	
		Moribund	280 lbs.
Strongylosis	..... 8 „	Bruising	16 „
		Dropsical	40 „
Inflammation	..... 11 „	Total	336 lbs.
Pericarditis	..... 19 „	BEASTS HEADS.	
		Tuberculosis	9,058 lbs.
Mammitis	..... 360 „	Abscesses	155 „
		Total	9,213 lbs.
Abscesses	..... 238 „		
		PIGS HEADS.	
Cirrhosis	..... 195 „	Tuberculosis	1,656 lbs.
		Abscesses	26 „
Total	11,305 lbs.	Total	1,682 lbs.

TOTAL.

Organs	.....	11,305 lbs.
Beef	.....	21,337 „
Pork	.....	1,110 „
Mutton	.....	336 „
Beasts Heads	.....	9,213 „
Pigs Heads	.....	1,682 „
Total	.....	44,983 lbs.

MILK AND DAIRIES.

The cowsheds in the area have been visited and though some dairy farmers are producing milk in a clean manner there is great room for improvement in many cases.

So far there are no farmers in this district producing Tuberculin Tested Grade "A" milk.

There is quite a large amount of pasteurised milk coming into the district from outside sources.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Once again I am pleased to report that no cases of smallpox were notified during 1937.

Mr. Moorhouse, the Vaccination Officer, reports as follows :—

Number of children born in 1936	.....	.....	2,852
Number of children born in that year who were vaccinated	.....	.....	536
Number of children born in 1937	.....	.....	2,896
Number of vaccinations of all ages in that year.....			851

Scarlet Fever.

There has been no appreciable increase in the number of Scarlet Fever cases notified this year. The figures for the past three years, being : in 1935—199 notifications ; in 1936—228 notifications ; and in 1937—218 notifications.

One death was attributed to Scarlet Fever, but as in the one death occurring last year, there were other material lesions present which contributed largely to the fatal issue.

It may be said, therefore, that during the past two years, Scarlet Fever has not been the direct cause of death in any instance.

It is also pleasing to note that the cases have few of the complications which often are present in Scarlet Fever.

Diphtheria.

This year notifications of Diphtheria exceeded those of the past two years, the figures are as follows : 1935—136 cases ; 1936—198 cases ; 1937—284 cases.

Fourteen deaths were attributed to diphtheria giving a case mortality of 4.94%. Of the 14 deaths, 9 occurred in children under the age of 5 years.

On these figures, this would seem to mean a reduction in the case mortality from last year, but I do not consider this to be the case, nor do I consider that the 284 cases notified were all true cases of Diphtheria. The disease was very prevalent during the last three months of the year, and as is usual at such times any case of sore throat which is in any way suggestive of diphtheria should be treated as such. The result is that a certain number of cases of tonsillitis are notified as diphtheria and treated as such.

It must be realised that the differential diagnosis of diphtheria and severe septic throat is a matter of great difficulty, and can only be cleared up by bacteriological examination.

Included in the number of cases notified, are a certain number of carriers, who have not had the disease, but harbour the organisms of diphtheria in the throat or nose.

Immunisation—against diphtheria.

A total of 117 children were treated during the year. The following are the particulars :—

101 received two doses A.P.T., i.e., complete treatment.

10 children received one dose.

5 children refused 2nd dose.

1 child Schick tested and found negative.

I anticipate that a larger number will be done in the year 1938, as I have had numerous inquiries during the latter weeks of 1937 regarding immunisation.

Enteric Fever.

Five cases of enteric fever were notified during the year. In two cases the diagnosis was not confirmed after thorough investigation. The other three cases were all infections of the paratyphoid B type. These three cases occurred in widely separated parts of the district.

No source of infection was traced in any case.

Undulant Fever.

One case was notified. There was strong suspicion that it was due to infected milk, but no satisfactory proof was obtainable.

Cerebro-Spinal Fever.

Four cases were notified. There was one death due to this disease.

SCHOOLS.

The schools on the area have been visited during the year. Reports on conditions at certain schools have been made to the Education Authorities at Derby.

A piped water supply is now available at Brackenfield, and during the summer vacation in 1938, there will be extensive reconstruction work done at Brackenfield school.

Bacteriological Examinations.

Table showing the number of specimens sent from the Rural District, and examined at the County Laboratory, Derby.

Enterica :—					Positive.	Negative.
Typhoid, Para-Typhoid A. & B.					2	19
Gaertner, Dysentry, etc.					6	17
Diphtheria					57	250
Phthisis					15	79
Water					5	—
Milk :—						
Methylene Blue Reduction Test						
Bacillus Coli Routine					—	1
Tubercle Bacilli, Inoculation, Routine					—	1
Milk & Dairies Act					22	183
Tubercle Bacilli, Inoculation, Tuberculosis Order					—	1
Tubercle Bacilli, Microscopically, Tuberculosis Order					1	1
Miscellaneous, Milk & Dairies Act					3	10
Miscellaneous, Other sources					2	30
Total					113	592

TABLE 3. **OPHTHALMIA NEONATORIUM.**

CASES.			Vision Un- Impaired.	Vision Impaired.	Total Blindness	Deaths.
Notified	Treated					
	At home.	In Hospital				
8	8	—	8	—	—	—

TABLE 4. **INFECTIOUS DISEASES.**

Disease.	Total Number Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Smallpox	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	218	189	1
Diphtheria	284	259	14
Enteric Fever	5	5	—
Puerperal Fever	4	2	} 5
Puerperal Pyrexia	12	9	
Cerebro-spinal Fever	4	4	1
Pneumonia	244	—	47
Erysipelas	36	1	—
Polio-myelitis	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorium	8	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	1
Undulant Fever	1	—	—

TABLE 5. **TUBERCULOSIS RETURN FOR 1937.**

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non- Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non- Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
1 and over	—	—	5	3	—	—	1	1
5 and over	3	2	3	1	1	—	—	—
15 and over	8	4	1	3	—	2	1	—
25 and over	1	8	4	—	—	3	1	—
35 and over	3	6	1	2	1	2	1	—
45 and over	6	1	—	—	3	1	—	—
55 and over	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
65 and over.	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Total	23	22	15	10	7	8	4	1
NOT PRIMARY.								
Cases included above	8	5	4	3	—	—	—	—
NOT NOTIFIED.								

TABLE 6. BIRTH RATES, DEATH RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY, MATERNAL DEATH RATE AND CASE RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE YEAR 1937.

	England and Wales.	125 County Boro's and Great Towns including London.	148 Smaller Towns (Re- sident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census.)	London Adminis- trative County.	Chester- field R.D.C.
Rates per 1,000 Population.					
Births—					
Live	14.9	14.9	15.3	13.3	14.6
Still	0.60	0.67	0.64	0.54	0.99
Deaths—					
All Causes.. ..	12.4	12.5	11.9	12.3	10.89
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	—
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.01	0.087
Scarlet Fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.014
Whooping Cough.. ..	0.04	0.04	0.03	0.06	0.043
Diphtheria	0.07	0.08	0.05	0.05	0.202
Influenza	0.45	0.39	0.42	0.38	0.548
Violence	0.54	0.45	0.42	0.51	0.650
Notifications—					
Smallpox	0.00	—	0.00	—	—
Scarlet Fever	2.33	2.56	2.42	2.09	3.14
Diphtheria	1.49	1.81	1.38	1.93	4.09
Enteric Fever	0.05	0.06	0.04	0.05	0.07
Erysipelas.. .. .	0.37	0.43	0.34	0.44	0.52
Pneumonia	1.36	1.58	1.20	1.18	3.51
Rates per 1,000 Live Births.					
Deaths under 1 year of age	58	62	55	60	60
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age	5.8	7.9	3.2	12.0	1.97
Maternal Mortality—					
Puerperal Sepsis	0.97	Not Available			1.98
Others	2.26				2.97
Total	3.23				4.95
Rates per 1,000 Births (i.e. Live and Still).					
Maternal Mortality—					
Puerperal Sepsis	0.94	Not Available			1.85
Others	2.17				2.77
Total	3.11				4.62
Notifications—					
Puerperal Fever	13.93	17.59	11.52	4.15	3.70
Puerperal Pyrexia				14.34	11.10

TABLE 7. CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE CHESTERFIELD
RURAL DISTRICT DURING 1937.

	Male.	Female.	Rate per 1,000 Living.	Decimal Average 1927-37.
All causes	395	360	10.89	10.81
Typhoid Fever, etc.	—	—	—	.010
Measles	3	3	.087	.692
Scarlet Fever	—	1	.014	.013
Whooping Cough	—	3	.043	.083
Diphtheria	6	8	.202	.140
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	—	.014	.022
Influenza	18	20	.548	.260
Cerebro-spinal Fever	1	—	.014	.024*
Respiratory Tuberculosis	7	8	.220	.325
Other Tuberculosis	4	1	.072	.150
Syphilis	—	1	.014	.016*
General Paralysis of the Insane—Tabes Dorsalis	1	—	.014	.021*
Cancer	48	42	1.300	1.144
Diabetes	7	8	.220	.147
Cerebral Haemorrhage	28	21	.706	.617
Heart Disease	77	88	2.380	2.293
Aneurysm	1	1	.030	.005*
Other Circulatory Diseases	11	14	.360	.269*
Bronchitis	26	14	.562	.528
Pneumonia (all forms)	30	17	.677	.926
Other Respiratory	5	2	.109	.081
Peptic Ulcer	3	—	.043	.075
Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 yrs.)	—	2	.030	.071
Other Digestive Diseases	3	9	.173	.149*
Appendicitis	—	2	.030	.059
Cirrhosis of Liver	1	—	.014	.022
Other Liver Diseases	1	2	.043	.048*
Nephritis	12	10	.317	.341
Puerperal Sepsis	—	2	.030	.024
Other Puerperal Causes	—	3	.043	.049
Congenital Causes, etc.	18	19	.533	.601
Senility	8	10	.260	.125*
Suicide	1	1	.030	.090
Other Violence	33	12	.650	.530
Other Defined Causes	38	29	.966	1.235
Ill-defined Causes	3	7	.144	.090
			Per 1,000 Births.	
Deaths of Infants under 1 year, including Illegitimate	36	25	60.28	71.93
Deaths of Illegitimate Infants	3	1	143.00	131.67
			Per 1,000 Living.	
Births. Total	498	514	14.59	17.30
Legitimate	483	501	14.18	16.63
Illegitimate	15	13	.40	.66

*7 years only.

TABLE 8. VITAL STATISTICS OF THE PARISHES.

	Acreage.	Estimated Population 1937	Per 1,000 Living.					Per 1,000 Births.	
			Births.	Deaths.	Epidemic Diseases.	Respiratory Tuber- culosis.	Other Tuber- culosis.	Infant Mortality.	Illegiti- mate Births.
Ashover ..	9,564	2,305	8.67	12.60	—	.44	—	50	50.0
Barlow ..	3,932	880	11.36	20.46	1.14	—	—	200	—
Beighton ..	3,135	11,485	14.80	7.75	.17	.17	.09	35	17.64
Brackenfield ..	1,551	255	7.84	0.79	—	—	—	—	—
Brampton ..	5,266	1,030	12.62	13.60	—	—	—	—	—
Brimington ..	1,283	5,892	15.10	10.18	.85	.17	—	67	33.70
Calow ..	1,267	1,278	13.30	11.75	—	—	—	—	—
Eckington ..	8,823	12,162	12.82	12.32	.25	.34	—	51	32.05
Hasland ..	934	3,014	16.92	12.57	.66	—	.66	80	19.6
Heath ..	1,676	1,487	31.61	17.48	—	1.35	—	43	63.8
Holmesfield ..	5,984	997	10.03	7.92	—	—	—	—	—
Killamarsh ..	1,661	4,595	13.47	8.59	—	—	—	63	—
Morton ..	1,125	1,297	10.80	14.00	.77	—	—	73	—
North Wingfield ..	1,551	5,790	14.68	10.71	.35	.52	.17	82	35.29
Pilsley ..	1,454	2,612	13.39	11.10	.77	.40	—	114	28.57
Shirland and Higham ..	2,956	3,942	17.50	10.40	.50	—	—	43	58.00
Stretton ..	1,296	614	11.40	1.14	—	—	—	—	—
Sutton-cum-Duckmanton ..	3,711	1,567	18.50	14.04	—	—	—	103	34.5
Temple Normanton ..	520	588	15.30	18.72	.70	—	—	222	—
Tupton ..	681	2,031	18.21	10.34	—	—	—	27	27.02
Unstone ..	2,582	2,035	18.18	12.77	—	—	.49	87	—
Walton ..	3,736	1,717	10.48	8.74	.58	—	—	56	—
Wessington ..	973	636	22.01	11.01	—	—	—	143	143.00
Wingerworth ..	3,478	1,151	9.56	6.08	.87	.87	—	91	—
Total ..	69,139	69,360	14.59	10.89	.37	.22	.07	60	27.66

TABLE 9.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR ACCORDING TO AGE PERIODS.

	Total.	Under 1 year.	1 to 2.	2 to 3.	3 to 4.	4 to 5.	5 to 10.	10 to 15.	15 to 20.	20 to 35.	35 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 and over.	Admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Smallpox ..	218	1	3	7	17	15	104	41	16	12	—	1	1	189	1
Scarlet Fever ..	284	1	5	12	17	19	119	62	21	18	—	1	1	259	14
Diphtheria ..	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	—	—	1	2	5
Enteric Fever ..	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	11	—	—	—	4	1
Puerperal Fever ..	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	32	—	—	—	—	47
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	4	—	—	—	—	—	2	19	16	4	—	—	—	1	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever ..	244	16	9	12	13	9	33	—	2	—	25	39	24	—	—
Pneumonia ..	36	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	10	9	1	—
Erysipelas ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Polio-myelitis..	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	3	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—
Dysentery ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Undulant Fever ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis—															
Pulmonary—Male	23	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	2	7	4	6	1	2	2
Female	22	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	3	9	6	2	—	10	4
Non-Pulmonary—Male	15	1	—	—	2	3	1	2	1	4	1	—	—	6	—
Female	10	—	—	1	2	—	1	—	1	2	2	1	—	6	1

TABLE 10. INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE PARISHES.

	Smallpox.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Enteric Fever.	Puerperal Fever.	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Cerebro-spinal Fever.	Pneumonia.	Erysipelas.	Polio-myelitis.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Encephalitis Lethargica.	Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	Other Tuberculosis.	Undulant Fever.	Dysentery.
Ashever ..	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2
Barlow ..	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	3	6	—	2	—	11	7	—	—
Beighton ..	—	37	27	—	—	2	—	63	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brackenfield ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brampton ..	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brimington ..	—	31	11	1	—	—	—	3	3	—	2	—	1	1	—	—
Calow ..	—	5	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	4	1	—	—
Eckington ..	—	20	76	—	1	4	2	93	8	—	—	—	5	2	—	1
Hasland ..	—	18	42	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Heath ..	—	16	2	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Holmesfield ..	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Killamarsh ..	—	8	7	1	1	1	—	46	4	—	1	—	5	1	—	—
Morton ..	—	—	15	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	1	—	—
North Wingfield ..	—	20	13	—	1	1	—	4	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	—
Pilsley ..	—	17	30	—	—	—	—	2	6	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Shirland & Higham ..	—	9	26	2	1	—	—	6	1	—	1	—	—	1	1	—
Stretton ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
Sutton-c.-Duckmanton ..	—	10	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Temple Normanton ..	—	8	21	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tupton ..	—	2	4	—	—	—	—	6	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Unstone ..	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Walton ..	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	1	—	2	—	—	—
Wessington ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wingerworth ..	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ..	—	218	284	5	4	12	4	241	36	—	8	—	45	25	1	3

TABLE 11. SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

	No. on Register.	Inspections made.	Notices Served.	Nuisances abated with or without notice.
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milk-shops	677	202	15	93
Bakehouses	19	6	—	—
Slaughter-houses	41	3150	—	37
Offensive Trades	1	5	—	—
Common Lodging Houses	1	4	—	—
Total	739	3367	15	130

TABLE 12. SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.
SUMMARY OF THE WORK OF THE SANITARY DEPARTMENT.

	No. of inspections made by Sanitary Inspector.	No. of Notices served.		No. of Nuisances abated with or without notice.
		Informal.	Legal.	
Closets and Ashpits.—				
Defective Privies, Pail Closets and Ashpits (not for conversion)	9	8	7	2
Conversion of Privies into W.C.'s	2946	408	—	484
Conversion of Pail Closets into W.C.'s	5	—	—	2
Conversion of Privies, into Pail Closets.. .. .	—	—	—	—
Defective Water Closets	60	5	—	3
Provision of additional W.C.'s	23	—	—	5
Provision of Portable Ashbins	676	131	—	443
Dirty Closets	2	5	—	—
Drainage—				
No disconnection of waste pipe	—	—	—	—
Defective waste pipe, Traps, Inlets and Drains	697	55	—	502
Drains obstructed	121	48	—	54
Other Defects—				
Paving of Courts and Yards	728	17	—	270
Roofs, Eaves-Spouts and Down-Spouts	96	15	—	15
Sinks	91	40	—	21
Insufficient Ventilation	4	—	—	1
Windows.. .. .	11	6	—	4
Dampness	112	41	—	8
Water in Cellars	60	2	—	1
Water Supply	75	3	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Foul Condition of Houses	2	—	—	5
Offensive Accumulations	23	2	—	1
Animals improperly kept.	20	—	—	1
Pigsties	10	—	—	—
Smoke Nuisances	—	—	—	—
Urinals	2	1	—	6
Nuisances not specified above	655	94	—	60
Total	6428	881	7	1888

TABLE 13. **FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.****1.—Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.**

Including Inspections made by sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Occupiers prosecuted (4)
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	—	—	—
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries)	11	—	—
Workplaces (Other than Outworkers' premises)	—	—	—
Total	11	—	—

2.—Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Nil.

OUTWORK IN UNWHOLESOME PREMISES, SECTION 108.

Pea Picking .. 2.

ERADICATION OF BUGS.

No complaints of Bed Bugs have been received during the year. It is now a routine to take all furniture, etc., coming from a house scheduled for demolition under the 1936 Act to be fumigated before the tenants are allowed to take it into a new house.



